Influence of television and cinemas on children

3253. SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the children are being influenced by television and cinemas mostly;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to keep them away from bad influence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) to (c) No such formal study has been brought to the notice of the Ministry. However, so far as Television is concerned, with a view to containing the adverse effect of programmes and advertisements on viewers, specially the children, the Government had set up a Committee to review the existing Programme and Advertisement Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. The Committee has submitted its report which is available on the Ministry's website *http://mib.gov.in*. Further, consultations with the stakeholders is required before arriving at a broad consensus.

The Government has also constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) to look into the violations of the Programme and Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. The IMC either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaints looks into the violation and thereafter gives its recommendations to the Government, based on which action is taken as per rules.

So far as Cinema is concerned, the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) certifies films as per the provisions of Cinematograph Act, 1952 and Rules and Guidelines framed thereunder. While certifying films as 'U' for unrestricted public exhibition, care is taken to see that visuals/scenes/dialogues that are not suitable for non-adults are not allowed in the film.

Exclusion of non-serious candidates from elections

3254. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering proposals to exclude non-serious candidates from Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections; and

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard, so far?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) A Bill, namely, the Representation of the People (Second Amendment) Bill, 2008 has been introduced in Rajya Sabha on the 24th October, 2008, which *Inter alia* includes, among others, the proposal to increase the security deposit of the candidates from Rs. 10000/- to Rs. 25000/- and Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 10000/- for Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha respectively, which would be reduced by fifty percent for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes,

with a view to discourage non-serious candidates for filing nominations and contesting elections. The Bill was examined by the Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice which in its report *Inter alia* observed as under, — "The Committee feels that the proposed amendment will, to a certain extent, discourage such non serious candidates, it endorses the amendment".

National Judicial Commission

3255. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set up a National Judicial Commission;

(b) if so, the details of its constitution, terms of reference, jurisdiction and powers; and

(c) which authority has been designated as appellate authority against the decisions of the National Judicial Commission?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Setting up of more courts

†3256. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Justice of India has stressed upon increasing the number of courts in the country;

(b) whether Government has realized the need to set up at least 100 CBI courts; and

(c) if so, the steps being contemplated by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court has informed that the Chief Justice of India while speaking at the official functions organized by different bodies including Bar Associations and Government organizations, has repeatedly stressed upon increasing the number of courts in the country. The Government has decided to set up 71 additional Special Courts for trial of cases investigated by the CBI.

National Judicial Commission

3257. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state: (a) the main highlights of the Constitution 98th Amendment Bill seeking to create a National Judicial Commission;

(b) whether, in view of recent events at Allahabad, Punjab and Chennai High Courts, it is the right time to debate and decide up on the matter concerning the Commission; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.